

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated August 14, 2008. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 are pending in the Application. By means of the present amendment, the claims are amended including for better conformance to U.S. practice, including changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--, and amending dependent claims to begin with "The" as opposed to "A". By these amendments, the claims are not amended to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

In the Office Action, the specification is objected to for informalities. In addition, the specification is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for not being written in full, clear,

concise and exact terms. The noted informalities are corrected herein. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection and the rejection to the specification is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to because FIG. 1B should be designated with the legend "Prior Art". In response, the legend "Prior Art" is added to FIG. 1B herein. Replacement sheets including FIG. 1B is enclosed. Applicants respectfully request approval of the enclosed proposed drawing change and withdrawal of the drawing objection.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by "Trade-offs in the design of a router with both guaranteed and best-effort services for networks on chip" by Rijpkema ("Rijpkema"). Claim 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Rijpkema.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6 are allowable over Rijpkema for at least the following reasons.

Rijpkema shows an architecture of a combined guaranteed service and best efforts router in FIG. 8. As shown, a plurality of input ports are shown, each connected to two corresponding input queues. Each of the two corresponding input queues is

connected to a corresponding multiplexer. The outputs of the multiplexer are each connected to a crossbar switch. However, as is clear from FIG. 8, since each of the two corresponding input queues are connected to a corresponding multiplexer with only a single output of the multiplexer received by the crossbar switch, the crossbar switch is not arranged to receive each of the two corresponding input queues simultaneously.

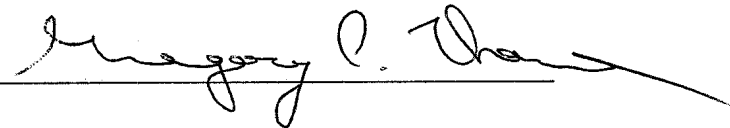
It is respectfully submitted that the integrated circuit of claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Rijpkema. For example, Rijpkema does not disclose or suggest, an integrated circuit that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis added) "at least one of the routers comprising a plurality of input ports arranged to receive input data corresponding to at least two traffic classes, the routers further comprising a plurality of queues, the queues being arranged to store input data corresponding to a single traffic class, wherein the input ports are coupled to at least two of the queues, the routers further comprising a switch, wherein the switch is arranged to receive input from each of the plurality of queues simultaneously" as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 6.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 6 are patentable over Rijpkema and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-5 respectively depend from claim 1 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Enclosure: Replacement drawing sheet (1 sheet including FIG. 1B)

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